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Captain's Call



Navy Completing Revisions to Foreign Area Officer Program

The Department of the Navy is in the final stages of completing revisions to its Foreign Area Officer (FAO) Program.

The purpose of the community is to work relations between the State Department and the Defense Department at a foreign embassy and to facilitate naval forces that would come into an area so that they could be effective with the host nation.



An FAO could be attached to a fleet commander and provide cultural expertise to assist with relations with the fleet commander's area of responsibility.

The first group of FAOs will begin training in June, starting with 15-18 months of graduate study at the Naval Postgraduate School, followed by up to 15 months at the Defense Language Institute. Both schools are in Monterey, Calif.

To qualify for the program, officers must have eight years of commissioned service.

FAOs will not always be stationed overseas. When not assigned to operational sea tours, FAOs will be assigned as attachés, directors and action officers within the continental United States.

Interested officers can get more information by contacting the FAO program office at DSN 223-0949.

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